and water on himself. All the food, cutlery and glasses were strewn an. other him and were cleared by the cabin attendees. After that, the passenger slept in a drunken state. No action has been taken by Indian Airlines against him.

Estimates Committee's recommendation on vesting more powers to service chiefs

2335. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Estimates Committee of the Parliament had recommended vesting of greater powers to the three Chiefs of Staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken thereon;

(d) whether an. inter-Ministerial Committee reviewed the delegation of powers to service Headquarters and lower echelons in the services; and

(e) if so, tho details of the specific recommendations made by the inter-Ministerial Committee and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE 'SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) The Estimates Committee of Parliament in its Report has referred to the issue of enhanced delegation of powers to the Chiefs of Staff. The delegation of financial powers to the Services is reviewed from time to time and enhancements as are considered necessary are ordered.

(d) and (e) The Government have considered the inter-Ministerial Committee's Report and substantive recommendations of the Committee have been accepted. Accordingly, financial powers delegated to various authorities in Services Head quarters and lower echelons in the Services have been enhanced.

Indo-Russian collaboration for aviation venture

2336. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBBAJIRAO SHNDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will she PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recent. "Wl of Prime Minister to Russia, an agreement was signed for setting up an Indo-Russian Collaboration for aviation venture;

(b) if so, the details of the contempower porject and *its* Objectives: and

te) the steps faken so for and being taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLKARIUN): (a) to (c) An agreement on formation of a joint venture company by Hindustan Aeronatutics Limited (HAL), in collaboration with Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) alongwith certain Russian organisations was signed on 30[1] lone, 1994 during the visit of Prime Minister to Moscow. The scope of activities of the Joint venture company covers ware housing of aviation stores and servicing, repair, modification, etc. of aeronautical equipment. The company is in the process of being incorporated in India and parallely various steps for its businesss development have been initiated.

Implementation of Pension Schemes in Defence Cantonment Bodies

2337. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(al whether it to a fact that rules of liberalised pension or family pension schemes are not being strictly followed by various defence cantonment bodies;

(b) whether these cantonments have been working under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Defence or Director General of Defence Estates;

(c) whether Government have Received a number pf representations artd requests from various sections of affected persons *tor* redressing their grievances for pen sions,

(d) whether effective action has not yet been taken to direct the concerned department for following the rules of liberal feed pension scheme of Govern ment of India; and

(e) if so. the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No.' Sir.

(b) The Cantonment Boards - function under the overall control of the Central Government.

(c) to (e) Yes. Sir. Representations were received for extension of ex-gratia pen sionary benefits to the widows and de pendents of the deceased retired emplo yees of the Cantonment Boards who; were subscribing to the Contributory Provident Fund; provision of pensionary benefit to the employees of the Boards who retired prior to 1st May, 1976 as well as expeditious finalisation of pen sionary claims.

A" per policy, employees, of the Can tonment Boards who had retired piror to Ist ?':,y. 1976, are not er titled to the pensV'.i scheme intraduced w.e.f. 1st May, 1976. as they had already been paid :11 l he benefits admissible to them under the existing CPF scheme. A decison on in the matter of ex-gratia pay-mem to the deceased employees of the Cantonment Boards prior to 1st May, 1976 is linked with the financial condition of the Cantonment Boards, Neces-sary instructionsi have been issued by the> Director General Defence Estates to the authorities concerned for expeditiousprocess of finalisation of pension classes admissible under th$_{e}$ rules.

Unserviceable tanks kept at Kirkee

2338. SHRI RAMNATH KOVTND: Will the PRIME -MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Armoured Fighting Vehicles (Tanks) of various types of 2nd World War Vintage held in unser-viceable/beyond repair condition/obso-lute type at Central Armoured Fighting Vehicle Depot (unfit vehicle park) at Kirkee;

(b) what is the total area occupied (both covered and uncovered) by these unfit vehicles;

(c) the establishment sanctioned for watch and ward and holding/stockini> (store keeper and security) of these vehicles and what is the recurring annua! expenditure for the same; and

(d) whether these equipments have any use in future and if not, the reasons for which these are kept?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) There are 10 such Armoured Fighting Vehicles (AFVJ of Second World War vintage in Central Armouerd Fighting Vehicle Depot, Kirkee.

(b) These vehicles are occupying ap-proximately 400 Sequare Metres of open space.

(c) No security personnel have been sanctioned specifically to guard these vehicles. The' sanctioned securities personnel are for the security of the entire compound and holdhgs of the Depot. As such no extra expenditure is being incurred on guarding these vehicles.

(d) These vehicles have been earmarked for handiug over to the War Museums for display.